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and Robert H. Pruyn, which culminated in the ratification of the commercial treaty of 1858 by the mikado.

Throughout we have a view of Japanese politics with interesting incidents of diplomacy, showing that the Japanese government was always handicapped by the domestic troubles resulting from conflicting factions within the empire.

The work of these "three worthy representatives of their nation" and the return of the Shimonoseki indemnity to Japan by the United States in 1883, laid the foundation of the "traditional" friendship between America and Japan. M. T. M.

*The United States in the World War.* By JOHN BACH McMASTER.  
New York, London, D. Appleton and Company, 1918.  
485 pp.

In this book we see the master hand once again in the use of newspaper material and state documents. As in his history Professor McMaster here follows a chronological order in presenting his facts. The development of events is traced from the beginning of the struggle in Europe to the end of our first year of war (1914-1918). Each event is stated in its chronological order; the diplomatic negotiations relative to it are given, and the sentiment of the people of the countries concerned is shown from newspapers and other contemporary writings. Without attempting to prove any thesis, McMaster has yet made it easy to trace the gradual change of sentiment in the United States away from Germany and in favor of France and England. Pro-German propaganda and German intrigue in the United States are dealt with at great length as well as the American government's plans for counteracting these treacherous acts when found among German agents and German officials. The author presents the question of neutral trade and of submarine warfare in an interesting way by giving first the actual events, then a summary of the diplomatic correspondence and the newspaper comments. This volume is undoubtedly one of the few really valuable works among the many hundreds which have appeared upon the war.

M. T. M.

*Bolshevism. The Enemy of Political and Industrial Democracy.*  
By JOHN SPARGO. Harper and Bros., Publishers. New York  
and London, 1919. 389 pp.

This book gives a plain and understandable outline of the origin, history and meaning of Bolshevism. It is an attempt

"to provide the average American reader with a fair and reliable statement of the philosophy, program, and policies of the Russian Bolsheviks."

In his analysis, Mr. Spargo relies upon official documents issued by the Bolshevik government; writings and addresses of accredited Bolshevik leaders; Russian Socialist organizations of long and honorable standing; and responsible Russian socialist journals.

The long delay in the uprising of the Russian people was due to German intrigue, for Germany knew that once Russia was aroused she would become a menace to her western neighbor. The Romanof rule was Prussian not Russian. The provisional government under Milyoukov was bound to fail for it was capitalistic. Kerensky's regime was well suited to the temper of the Russian mind but it fell on account of the pressure of the Bolshevik assisted by German money. However, practically all classes in Russia desired the defeat of the Hohenzollerns, for a kaiser no more than a czar was thought to be inclined to grant desired reforms.

To Lenine all capitalistic government is equally undesirable, whether in England, France or America. A democratic republic is a bourgeois republic; and Lenine is opposed to both. Mr. Spargo discounts many of the "horrors" of the Bolshevik stating that they have merely inverted the old czarist regime. According to the author the Bolshevik represent a very small minority of the Russians. They number only about two hundred thousand, and if it were possible to hold a truly secret, just election Mr. Spargo thinks they would be defeated throughout the country.

Most of our citizens who favor Bolshevism are pacifists and stand for complete disarmament, while the Bolshevik themselves believe in war and do not favor disarmament until the whole world has become Socialistic. The Bolshevik movement is the "infusion into the class strife and class struggles of the world the same brutality and the same faith that might is right which made Prussian militarism the menace it was to civilization." Just as the world set about to defeat Prussianism so must Bolshevism be put away not through blood but by removing social pressure upon the masses, by relieving the poverty and servitude which have driven man to Bolshevism. "The remedy of Bolshevism is a sane and far-reaching program of constructive social democracy."

CLARA E. SCHIEBER.